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a. Serial No.	f. Foreign Priority	k. Print Claim(s)	p. PTO-1449
b. Applicant(s)	g. Disclaimer	l. Print Fig.	q. PTOL-85b
c. Continuing Data	h. Microfiche Appendix	m. Searched Column	r. Abstract
d. PCT	i. Title	n. PTO-270/328	s. Sheets/Figs
e. Domestic Priority	j. Claims Allowed	o. PTO-892	t. Other

SPECIFICATION

- a. Page Missing
- b. Text Continuity
- c. Holes through Data
- d. Other Missing Text
- e. Illegible Text
- f. Duplicate Text
- g. Brief Description
- h. Sequence Listing
- i. Appendix
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- k. Other

CLAIMS

- a. Claim(s) Missing
- b. Improper Dependency
- c. Duplicate Numbers
- d. Incorrect Numbering
- e. Index Disagrees
- f. Punctuation
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MESSAGE

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Serial no. 091707,937 in continuing data paragraph
(page 1 of specification — DIV, CIP or CON).

Thank you

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RESPONSE

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SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARTUS FOR THE RAPID DETECTION AND ANALYSIS OF AIRBORNE BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

The applicant claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. application No. 60/164,251, filed November 8, 1999, and of U.S. application No. 09/707,937 filed November 8, 2000. *now abandoned*

FIELD OF THE INVENTION:

The invention relates to the field of airborne biological pathogen detection. More specifically the invention is directed to a sampling device and particle detector for the detection of air borne particles that have sizes consistent with certain hazardous biological pathogens that can be used as biological warfare agents. The invention also relates to a integrated system of sampling devices described herein that is useful for the detection of potential airborne biological pathogens.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

There is a concern among public officials in the United States that certain populations when grouped in large numbers or while attending public events are vulnerable to terrorist attack and, more particularly, vulnerable to attack by the use of air borne biological and chemical agents. For example, events of concern include civic events such as parades, national and local celebrations, sporting events, marches and political rallies that involve the gathering of large numbers of individuals. A further concern among public health officials is the dispersal of such agents in a large indoor environment such as subway systems, indoor arenas, shopping malls, office buildings and large banquet facilities. A further concern among both public health and security officials is the targeted release of biological agents in the proximity of certain government buildings such as, the FBI, the Pentagon, the White House, the Capitol, or military installations and naval vessels. Any of these locations make attractive targets for terrorists and